



Wayman Academy of the Arts  
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Erdine C. Johnson  
 Principal  
 November 3, 2011

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Wayman Academy Family,

The first nine weeks period as ended and we have gotten off to a great start. As Thanksgiving approaches, we would like to express **our appreciation for all that you do to support Wayman Academy.**

Parental Involvement is on the rise !! We also appreciate each of you as your children display good attitudes and demonstrate learning gains in the different subject areas. As a reminder, please remember:

**Reading** is something we encourage both at school and at home. Knowing how to choose a "just right" book makes this reading more meaningful and enjoy-

able for your child. A "just right" book isn't too easy or too hard for your child to read. You can be involved in your child's education by taking him/her to the library downtown or a branch library by selecting a "just right" book. Some questions to ask when helping your child choose a "just right" book are:

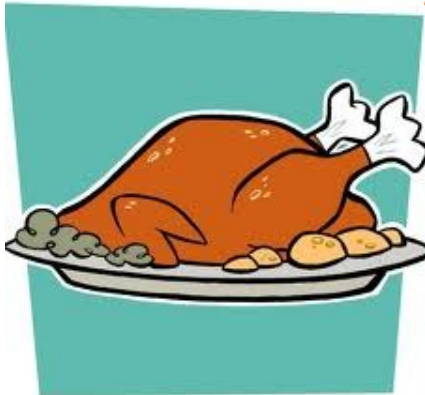
- What is your AR level?
- Can your child read and figure out almost all the words?
- Can your child tell you about the story or what h/she is learning from the book?
- Can your child read the book smoothly without stumbling over many of the words?
- When helping your child choose a "just

right" book, try the **"five finger test."**

As your child reads, have him hold up his hand and fold one finger down every time he misses a word. If all five fingers are down for one page, this book is too hard. Remember: You can still read this book to your child and ask questions as you read. One or two fingers down may mean the book is too easy. Three or four fingers down probably mean it's



## Join us for our Thanksgiving Feast! Thursday, November 17, 2011



Join your child for Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 17. We will be serving turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, macaroni and cheese, potato salad, string beans and sweet potato pie!

Cost is \$2.10 per adult and \$1.40 per child (Wayman Academy students pay their normal daily rate for lunch.) **All guests must pre-pay by Thursday, November 10.** See the office for details!

## November/ December 2011

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Visitors, for safety reasons, please report to the front office.

If you come to pick up or drop your children off, it is very important that you remember teachers are in meetings, working in their classrooms, having scheduled conferences, etc. Kindly do not enter classrooms or buildings without reporting to the front office for a pass. Please bring a picture ID. We need you to respect each teacher's desire to give students entrusted to us the best education possible in a safe environment. Thanks for your cooperation and support as we take seriously our responsibility for your children.

**TEAM WORK MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

## Character Education Traits for November & December



During the months of November and December we are focusing on the Character Traits of "Responsibility and Kindness." Responsibility means that people can rely on you to do the right thing. Kindness means to show consideration, helpfulness, gentleness towards others.

Please encourage your children to continue to be responsible in the following ways:

- Accepting consequences for inappropriate actions.
- Thinking before they act.

- Thinking before they speak.
- Doing their best school work with pride.
- Giving you information that is sent home by their teacher and from the school.
- Helping those in need.
- During the holiday season volunteering to do special deeds for elderly people.

Add to the list. Talk with your children to discuss what your list of being responsible and showing kindness means. You might play a game of, "Catch You Showing Kindness or Being Responsible." Have fun creating your own rules!!! Good luck!

Children can demonstrate kindness in the following ways:

- Expressing gratitude toward others.

## IMPORTANT ODDS AND ENDS



Too much to do—not enough time!!?

**School attendance is a key factor in school success.** When children miss school or they are late they miss opportunities to learn. This can hurt their grades and confidence at school. Research reveals some common family factors that affect attendance:

- **Sleep routines.** Have your child go to bed at a regular, reasonable hour each night. Otherwise, they'll be tired, and possibly late the next day.
- **Transportation.** Help your child arrive at school on time. If they take the bus, be sure they get to the bus stop a few minutes early. If they are a car rider, do not drop them off before 8:15 am. Also, if they walk to school, or someone walks them, please be sure they do not arrive before 8:15 am. If you choose to drop your child off before 8:15 please remember that we cannot assume responsibility for them. Teachers are at work, but we are busy planning for students or having scheduled conferences.



If you have not already come to the office and gotten your login and password for the Parent Portal, we encourage you to stop by. The Parent Portal sign-in will give you access to your child's grades and attendance as well as the teacher's

## Parent Portal

lesson plans. This is a great tool to keep updated on what's going on concerning your child's education.

Questions about the Portal? Join us for a parent workshop to learn how to navigate and use the Portal at home.

### Parent Portal Info Session

Tuesday, November 15  
9:00am  
Wayman Academy  
Parent Resource Room

## REPORT CARDS ARE ON THEIR WAY!!

Report cards are scheduled to come home on Monday, November 7, 2011. Please take time to review this very important report with your child. Plan to celebrate the successes and discuss any area of concern. This is the time of the year to remain in close communication with your child's teacher. Develop a partnership with the school as we work

together towards a successful year. Set goals with your child and teacher to improve grades in all areas as well as maintain acceptable grades. Become your child's biggest cheerleader!

If a conference is requested by your child's teacher, please attend. This demonstrates the importance of education

to your child. If you have any concerns, feel free to contact the school to set up a conference. We are in this together!!

### Report Card dates:

- **November 7**
- **January 30**
- **April 20**
- **June 7**



WHICH OF THESE LETTERS WILL REPRESENT YOUR GRADES???

## AWARDS DAY CELEBRATION

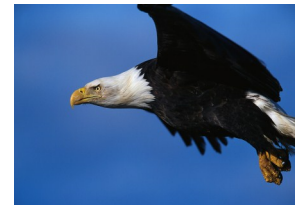
We invite and encourage all parents/guardians and family members to attend our 1st 9 weeks award ceremonies on Thursday, November 10, 2011. The



support your child. This is

Kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade assembly will take place at 8:45am. The 3rd, 4th and 5th grade assembly will take place at 10:00am. Please come out and

also a good time to talk to your child about setting goals for the next 9 week period. If your child did not receive any awards, sit down and talk to them about what changes they can make for the next reporting period. All children can be successful!



Soar With the Eagles of Wayman Academy!

## Principal's Birthday Celebration

The August, September and October Birthday Celebrations was a big success. Students were treated to



a birthday party with refreshments, balloons, and a good time in the cafeteria. Thanks a million to our wonderful parent/volunteers who made the celebration a grand success! We Appreciate You!! November's birthday celebration will be Friday,

November 18 and December's birthday's will be celebrated on Friday, December 16. If your child's birthday is in one of these months kindly call Ms. Sumpter to bring refreshments and/or volunteer.



Birthday Celebration for our students involves parents coming out to volunteer!

The School Improvement Plan and the Parental Involvement Plan for 2011-2012 are available for review in the front office.

We have a new website!  
Check out

[www.waymanacademy.org](http://www.waymanacademy.org)

and see our new look! We will be updating frequently so check back often. From our site, you can email teachers, access useful

links to help your children in school and see upcoming events at Wayman Academy!



## HOW IMPORTANT IS PARENT INVOLVEMENT?

**I work full-time, and it's hard for me to attend school events. My child doesn't seem to care whether I'm there or not. How important is it for me to go?** Research is clear on this subject. Parent involvement in education makes a huge difference in your child's success. So even if your child seems unconcerned about your presence, he/she is surely affected by it. This doesn't mean that you have to attend every school activity. In fact, many home tasks are associated with higher student achievement. The National Education Association (NEA) strongly suggests talking about school, helping with homework, and monitoring your child's time. According to the NEA, studies show that the earlier you get involved, the better. You'll see improvements in attendance, behavior, and grades. So find simple ways to contribute. Read to your child. Talk with the teacher. Attend Parent Workshops. Stay connected throughout the school year. Parents, please remember, "small investments now will yield a lifetime of rewards."

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



November 7:

Report Cards

Go Home

November 9:

Vision Screening

November 10:

Awards Ceremonies

November 17:

Thanksgiving Feast

November 11:

Veteran's Day  
(No School)

November 16:

Early Dismissal

November 18:

Principal's Birthday  
Party

November 23-28:

No School

December 7:

Early Dismissal

December 16:

Principal's Birthday Party

December 19-30:

No School



Parents, please have your children at school and on time each day!

Classroom Observation

Please call and speak with the principal who will work with you and schedule a time. We will be glad to have you come.